Research Notes For James Cox (1740-1793)

Research Overview

James Cox appears in the parish records of Kent as a locally rooted man whose adult life is defined by marriage and the steady expansion of his household. Born about 1740 at Westwell, Kent, he lived entirely before the era of named census records in England, leaving no population schedules to situate him within a household or community. What can be known of his life depends almost entirely on parish registers; without the baptisms of his children, little would remain to trace his presence beyond marriage and burial.

James married Anne Giles in 1759, after which the parish records follow the couple through the births of their children over nearly three decades. Most of these events are recorded at Hothfield, with earlier entries at Charing, creating a narrow but consistent geographic footprint. The records present James repeatedly in the same role—husband and father—without providing detail about his work, status, or relationships beyond the household.

James's record ends abruptly in 1793 with his death and burial at Hothfield. The burial register notes that he was buried as a pauper, the only point at which the record assigns a social condition to his life. Beyond that designation, no further details survive to explain the circumstances of his death or his economic position over time.

Timeline

Birth - Abt. 1740 Westwell, Kent, England[1]

16 Apr 1759 - Marriage to Anne Giles (1740-1793) at Great Chart, Kent, England[2]

"James Cox of the parish of Westwell in the county of Kent and Ann Giles of this parish were married by banns on 16 April 1759 by me, Thomas Wray, rector."

2 Jun 1760 - Birth of son William Cox (1760–1760) at Charing, Kent, England[3]

13 Jun 1760 - Death of son William Cox (1760–1760) at Charing, Kent, England[4]

8 Nov 1761 - Birth of daughter Frances Cox (1761–1846) at Hothfield, Kent, England[5]

30 Sep 1764 - Birth of daughter Mary Cox (1764–1853) at Hothfield, Kent, England[6]

3 May 1767 - Birth of son James Cox (1767–1852) at Hothfield, Ashford, Kent, England[7]

9 Aug 1772 - Birth of daughter Elizabeth Cox (1772–) at Hothfield, Kent, England[8]

2 Jul 1775 - Birth of daughter Anne Cox (1775–1831) at Hothfield, Kent, England[9]

14 Dec 1777 - Birth of son John Cox (1777–1869) at Hothfield, Kent, England[10]

23 May 1779 - Birth of daughter Hannah Cox (1779–1794) at Hothfield, Kent, England[11]

9 Sep 1781 - Birth of son George Cox (1781–1869) at Hothfield, Kent, England[12]

1 Aug 1784 - Birth of daughter Sarah Cox (1784–1861) at Hothfield, Kent, England[13]

28 May 1787 - Birth of daughter Lydia Ann Cox (1787–1862) at Hothfield, Kent, England[14]

19 Jun 1793 - Death at Hothfield, Kent, England[15]

19 Jun 1793 - Burial at Hothfield, Kent, England[15]

Buried as a pauper.